

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2014
7:00 P.M.

The Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Clarence E. Billups at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, Commissioners Alvin Nelson, Marian Solomon-Gaines, Norman Davis and Larry Ethridge.

Mayor Clarence E. Billups introduced Bishop Michael Flynn, First Born Church of the Living God who offered the opening invocation. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines introduced Jaira Leach, a third grade student at Center Elementary School who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Resolution Appointing Raphel Maddox as the Interim City Manager was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-23

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPOINT INTERIM CITY MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF WAYCROSS;
TO FIX COMPENSATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the former City Manager of Waycross, Georgia, Deron W. King, resigned his position with the City of Waycross, which resignation was accepted by the City Commission at a called meeting on March 10, 2014, leaving the City without a City Manager; and

WHEREAS, Section 25 of the City Charter provides that should the position of City Manager become vacant for any reason the Commission may appoint some properly qualified person as acting City Manager for a period of not more than six months, and the compensation of the acting City Manager shall be fixed by resolution of the Commission, and shall be paid by the City from the general funds of said City; and

WHEREAS, at a called meeting on March 20, 2014, the City Commission elected to appoint RAPHEL MADDOX as Interim City Manager, whose duties shall include the same duties as the former City Manager; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to fix the salary of the acting City Manager at an increase of ten percent (10.0%) of current annual salary, raising the annual salary to \$75,732.80, and calculated on a monthly base salary of \$6,311.07, payable retroactively in monthly installments at the same time that the other management employees of the City of Waycross are paid, not to exceed six months from the effective date of resignation and departure of the former City Manager; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross appoints RAPHEL MADDOX as Interim City Manager, and that his base monthly

salary shall be fixed at \$6,311.07 payable retroactively for a period of time not to exceed six months from the effective date of the resignation and departure of the former City Manager, or until a new City Manager is hired, whichever occurs first.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Resolution Appointing Raphel Maddox the Interim City Manager as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous and the motion was approved.

City Attorney Huey Spearman then administered the Oath of Office to the Interim City Manager Raphel Maddox.

GEORGIA, WAYCROSS, WARE COUNTY.

OATH:

I, RAPHEL MADDOX, do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully demean myself as Interim City Manager of the City of Waycross and that I have and will continue to uphold the laws of the City of Waycross, the State of Georgia, and the United States of America.

I do further swear that I will discharge my duties as Interim City Manager without the influence of fear, favor, affection, or reward or the hope thereof, but in all things pertaining to said office, I will be wholly governed by my convictions as to the public good.

I will well and truly perform all the duties of my office to the best of my ability;

I am not the holder of any unaccounted for public money due the State of Georgia or any political subdivision or authority thereof;

I am not the holder of any office of trust under the government of the United States, any other state, or any foreign state which office by the laws of the State of Georgia I am prohibited from holding;

I am otherwise qualified to hold said office according to the Constitution, laws of Georgia, and Charter and City Code of the City of Waycross.

I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Georgia;

So help me God.

This 1st day of April, 2014.

RAPHEL MADDOX

A Resolution to Approve Signature Card Changes was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-24

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE SIGNATURE CARD CHANGES
WITH THE CITY'S DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross maintains depository accounts at local financial institutions and designates certain city officials as signatories on said accounts; and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to change the names of the signatories on said accounts due to changes in staffing and for other reasons; and

WHEREAS, the Commission of the City of Waycross desires to change the names of the signatories on the Account(s) at SunTrust Bank, by deleting the name(s) of Deron W. King, and adding the name(s) of Raphel Maddox, in addition to maintaining the current name(s) of Danny Lamonte and Clarence E. Billups, who shall be the official signatories at such financial institution for the City of Waycross, Georgia. All other provisions of the Depository Agreement with said financial institution shall remain in effect until revoked by the City of Waycross.

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross approves the individuals named in this Resolution as the official signatories for the City of Waycross with said financial institution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be and are hereby authorized to execute this Resolution for the purposes stated herein and to give effect to the same for all purposes.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion for approval of the Resolution Approving Signature Card Changes with the City's Depository Institutions was made by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins and seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. All Commissioners voted affirmatively and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Allison Herrin, HR Department, introduced Mr. Steve Pope and Mr. Richard Love as the City of Waycross April 2014 Employees of the Month. Mr. Pope and Mr. Love were the project managers for the City Auditorium project and were recognized for the excellent job they did on the project by Mayor Clarence Billups and their Supervisor City Engineer Jessica Deal.

Interim City Manager Raphael Maddox asked Ms. Sloan Fountain, Main Street / Tourism Director to the podium to share with the Commission about Swampfest. Ms. Fountain reminded the Commissioners that Swampfest is April 4 and 5. She always informed the Commission that there are many new vendors this year, a larger Kid's Zone, Jacksonville Zoo will be on hand with two demonstrations on Saturday and the fireworks will be better than ever.

Ms. Allison Herrin, HR introduced Mr. Chad Radford who was congratulated for receiving his certification by the Georgia Chapter, American Public Works Association and American Public Works Association.

Mayor Clarence Billups congratulated Steve Pope and Richard Love for receiving Employees of the Month. Mayor Billups reminded everyone that Swampfest is full of family oriented activities.

Mayor Billups addressed recent rumors involving payroll changes. Mayor Billups stated that he was unaware of the changes and did not appreciate his honesty and integrity being questioned.

There were no public remarks on official action.

Mayor Billups presented the Consent Calendar as read by City Clerk, Julie Dinkins for consideration of official action as follows:

Approval of Minutes: Waycross City Commission Planning & Information Session and Executive Session, Monday, March 17, 2014; Waycross City Commission Zoning Public Hearing, M Street and Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, March 18, 2014; and Called Waycross City Commission Meeting, Wednesday, March 20, 2014.

There were no Ordinance Second Readings, Consent Resolutions or Privilege License Renewals.

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. Commissioners all voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5 - 0 vote.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones presented a Contract with Vyve (Mediastream) for cable for the City Auditorium. Seven connections will be established in the Auditorium with a monthly bill of \$65.99. The contract is for 36 months but may be terminated or renewed annually at the end of the 12 month period. Installation will cost approximately \$479.95.

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the contract with Vyve for cable at the City Auditorium. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones presented WAYX 14-09 Surplus Real Property. The City of Waycross owns 0.671 acres of property on the abandoned CSX Rail Bed bound by Tebeau Street and Pendleton Street and parallel to Brunswick Avenue and Albany Avenue in Land Lot 167. There has been a request by Mr. George Steedley, owner of adjoining property to purchase this property. If declared surplus by the City Commission, Purchasing will issue bids on this property and notify all adjoining property owners of the bid. Property will be awarded and sold to the highest bidder.

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to declare WAYX 14-09 Real Property surplus and put out for bids. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson; all voted positively and the motion was approved.

An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance and the Zoning Map of the City of Waycross, rezoning Tracts 4 and 3 on M Street and the rear portion of L Street by changing the zoning from G-I General Industrial to R-50MH Residential Mobile Home was presented for the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-04

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA AND THE ZONING MAP; TO REZONE THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN LOCATED AT M STREET TRACTS 4 AND 3, AND L STREET REAR PORTION FROM G-I GENERAL INDUSTRIAL TO R-50MH RESIDENTIAL MOBILE HOME DISTRICT; TO SET AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map was approved for the first reading by motion from Commissioner Norman Davis; seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines; and approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution Awarding the Contract for Cable to Vyve Broadband at the City Auditorium was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-25

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT TO VYVE BROADBAND FOR CABLE AT THE CITY
AUDITORIUM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department has received a quote from Vyve (Mediastream), the City's Cable Services provider for cable at the City Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, cable services are needed in order to operate projection equipment at the City Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, Vyve (Mediastream) is willing to offer cable services for \$65.99 per month for 7 connections at the City Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, the contract is for 36 months, but may be terminated or renewed annually at the end of the initial 12 month period; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a contract be awarded to Vyve (Mediastream) for cable services at the City Auditorium for \$65.99 per month for 7 connections at the City Auditorium, for a term of 36 months, which may be terminated or renewed at the end of each 12 month period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be, and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to ratify and confirm the execution of said Contract, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion to approve the A Resolution Awarding the Contract for Cable to Vyve Broadband at the City Auditorium was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution to Award the Contract to Greene Concrete Construction for 2014 Transportation Safety Improvements along the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project as presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-26

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT TO GREENE CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR 2014
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE MULTI-USE TRAIL AND
TRAILHEAD PROJECT AREA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department solicited bids for 2014 Transportation Safety Improvements along the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding and received and opened bids tendered for the project; and

WHEREAS, Greene Concrete Construction, Inc. of Fitzgerald, Georgia submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$74,636.00; and

WHEREAS, the City was approved for a grant in the amount of \$45,000.00 through the Georgia Department of Transportation ("GDOT") to receive Federal Hazard Elimination funds to be used for Traffic Safety Improvements, which have been allocated to supplement the project costs, and SPLOST funds of \$29,636.00 have also being allocated for the said project; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a contract be awarded to Greene Concrete Construction, Inc. of Fitzgerald, Georgia, for the 2014 Transportation Safety Improvements along the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project area, at a cost of \$74,636.00, to be paid for from GDOT grant funds and SPLOST funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Resolution to Award the Contract to Greene Concrete Construction for 2014 Transportation Safety Improvements along the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous and the resolution was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution to reject all Bids including Base Bid and Alternative Bids for the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project and to rebid the Project was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-27

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO REJECT ALL BIDS INCLUDING BASE BID AND ALTERNATIVE BIDS FOR THE
MULTI-USE TRAIL AND TRAILHEAD PROJECT, AND TO REBID THE PROJECT; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department solicited bids for the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project (Rails to Trails); and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding and received and opened bids tendered for the project; and

WHEREAS, only one bid was received for the project and grossly exceeded the estimated project costs; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineering Department recommends that all bids including base bid and alternative bids be rejected, and that the project be rebid with adjustments to the project scope in order to bring the cost within budget and receive comparison bidders; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that all bids received for the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead project, including base bid and alternative bids are hereby rejected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Engineering Department and the Purchasing Department rebid the project with the necessary adjustments to the project scope in order to bring the cost within budget and receive comparison bidders.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve A Resolution to reject all Bids including Base Bid and Alternative Bids for the Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead Project and to Rebid the Project as presented. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion; all voted favorably and the motion passed.

A Resolution to Award the Contract to Point & Pay LLC for Online Billing for Utility Bills and Permits and to Approve Budget Amendment Request was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-28

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT TO POINT & PAY, LLC FOR ONLINE BILLING FOR UTILITY
BILLS AND PERMITS, TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, American Data Group (“ADG”), the City’s financial software provider, has offered the Citizen Link option to give citizens the opportunity to make payments for utility bills and permits online with a credit card; and

WHEREAS, in order to implement the online billing, an E-Payment Services Agreement offered through Point & Pay is required; and

WHEREAS, the E-Payment Services Agreement requires an initial one-time set up fee of \$4,860.00, to be paid for from SPLOST funds; and

WHEREAS, a Budget Amendment is needed in order to transfer unused funds from Property Acquisition and Demolition to Information Technology, in the amount of \$5,500.00, to purchase online software for customers to be able to see their account information and history and make payments online; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a contract be awarded to Point & Pay, LLC, in order to implement online payments for utility bills and permits with a credit card, to be paid for from SPLOST Funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a Budget Amendment be approved, allowing transfer of unused funds from Property Acquisition and Demolition to Information Technology, in the amount of \$5,500.00, to purchase online software for customers to be able to see their account information and history and make payments online.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Contract with Point & Pay, LLC on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

A Resolution to Award the Contract for Online Billing for Utility Bills and Permits to Point & Pay LLC and to Approve Budget Amendment Request was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. All Commissioners voted yes and the vote was unanimous.

A Resolution to Issue a Permit to Waste Management Transfer Station, Brunswick, Georgia to Discharge in the City's Industrial Pretreatment Program Plant was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-28

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO ISSUE A PERMIT TO WASTE MANAGEMENT TRANSFER STATION, BRUNSWICK,
GEORGIA, TO DISCHARGE IN THE CITY'S INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM
PLANT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross has an existing Industrial Pretreatment Program plant; and

WHEREAS, the City has identified an additional customer, Waste Management Transfer Station located at 6019 Habersham Street, Brunswick, Georgia, that request permission to discharge into the City's plant and is in need of a permit, which will generate revenue for the City; and

WHEREAS, the City's Engineering Department has determined that the discharge falls within the existing Industrial Pretreatment Program guidelines; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that an IPP Permit be issued to Waste Management Transfer Station located at 6019 Habersham Street, Brunswick, Georgia, for discharge into the City's Industrial Pretreatment plant.

SO RESOLVED, this 1st day of April, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Resolution to Issue a Permit to Waste Management Transfer Station, Brunswick, Georgia to Discharge into the City's Industrial Pretreatment Program Plant as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; all voted yes and the motion carried.

Mr. John Summerlin addressed the Commission regarding 1307 Jane Street. Mr. Summerlin requested that the water and lights be turned on at 1307 Jane Street. He has a homeless man who needs a place to stay. Mr. Summerlin requested a letter setting forth the reasons why he cannot have the water connected at this house.

Prior to the Commission hearing from Guests, Mayor Clarence Billups explained to the audience that citizens would no longer be allowed to yield their time to another citizen. Each citizen will receive 5 minutes according to City law. Commissioner Norman Davis asked if the Commission could change the rules in order to allow citizens to yield their time. The City Attorney replied that if the Commission desires to change the rules, this would be acceptable.

Mr. John Summerlin spoke on "What Waycross looked like in the past". Mr. Summerlin as suggested that the City construct a building at EE Moore Park.

Reverend Norris Woods Sr., St. Peters Missionary Baptist Church addressed the Commission concerning reaching out to our youth. A Youth Program "Voices of the Youth" will be held to allow youth to share whatever talent God gave them. A Men's Convention "Voices of a Godly Man" will be he to encourage men to step-up.

Ms. Carolyn Hayes and Maurice Mungin of Mungin's Walk with God Ministry addressed the Commission regarding a planned event for EE Moore Park.

Mr. Jimmie Burke addressed the Commission and handed out a flyer suggesting a Citizens Task Force on the Future of Waycross, Georgia. He asked the Commission, what do we have in Waycross to get children to come back to Waycross.

Mr. Bobby Worthy reminded the Commission of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

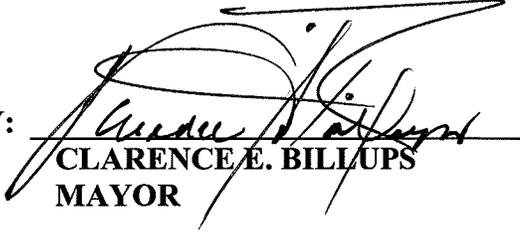
Mr. Christopher A Jordan addressed the Commission asking for the Commission to be more forthcoming with information and to "lay it on the table".

Reverend Fer-Rell Malone addressed the Commission concerning the recent resignation of City Manager Deron King and the procedures leading up to the resignation.

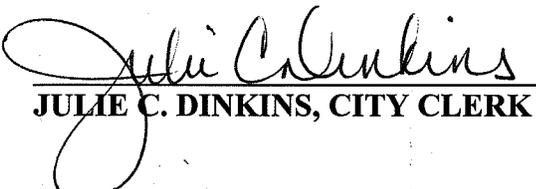
After last call Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor and Mayor Billups adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:


CLARENCE E. BILLUPS
MAYOR

ATTEST:


JULIE C. DINKINS, CITY CLERK